

NASA JOHNSON SPACE CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

NAME: Jack A. Kinzler

ORAL HISTORY: 9 June 1997
16 January 1998
27 April 1999

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

South Hills High School, Pittsburgh, PA, 1938
Journeyman Toolmaker, Four-year Apprenticeship Program, Langley Research Center,
Langley, VA, 1945
Miscellaneous supplemental courses at the University of Virginia and the Lyndon B.
Johnson Space Center

PRE-NASA CAREER:

Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory, National Advisory Council for Aeronautics
(NACA), Langley, VA
Under Aircraft Modelmaker (1941-1942)
Junior Aircraft Modelmaker/Assistant Apprentice Toolmaker (1942-1943)
Toolmaker, with progressive promotions as specialist (1943-1946)
Metal Modelmaker II, with progressive promotions (1946-1952)
Modelmaker Group Leader I (1952-1953)
Assistant Superintendent of Machine Shop (1953-1959)

NASA CAREER:

Acting Chief, Technical Services Division, Space Task Group, Langley Research Center,
VA (1959-1961)
Chief, Technical Services Center, Manned Spacecraft Center/Lyndon B. Johnson Space
Center, Houston, TX (1961-1977)

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- Source Evaluation Board Chairman
- Member, Johnson Space Center (JSC) Architect and Engineer Selection Board
- Member, JSC Spacecraft Criteria and Standards Board
- Member, Apprentice Board of Governors
- Member, Civil Service Board of Examiners
- Member, JSC Suggestion Awards Committee

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Retired

PROFESSIONAL & HONORARY SOCIETIES:

- American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

AWARDS & CITATIONS:

- NASA Manned Spacecraft Center Group Achievement Award, Mercury, 1962
- NASA Manned Spacecraft Center Superior Achievement Award, 1965
- NASA Manned Spacecraft Center Group Achievement Award, 1965
- NASA Manned Spacecraft Center Group Achievement Award, Gemini, 1966
- NASA Manned Spacecraft Center Quality Increase Performance Award, 1968
- NASA Exceptional Service Award, 1969
- NASA Manned Spacecraft Center Group Achievement Award, Apollo, 1969
- Certificate of Recognition and Patent from NASA Inventions and Contributions Board, 1970
- NASA Manned Spacecraft Center Superior Performance Award, 1971
- NASA Distinguished Service Medal, Skylab, 1973
- Houston Federal Business Association Civil Servant of the Year Award, 1974

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION:

- Zoning Official, City of Taylor Lake Village
- Senior Advisor, Explorer Scout Post, Off-Road Moto-Cross Motorcycling
- Merit Badge Counselor, Clear Lake Area Boy Scouts
- Member JSC Speakers Bureau
- Director, Junior Achievement "Spacecrafters 1966"
- Treasurer, Timber Cove Maintenance Committee
- Treasurer, Boy Scout Troop 895, Seabrook, TX
- Member, Timber Cove Recreation Association Board of Directors

PATENTS:

Emergency Escape System. J. A. Kinzler. 1970. U. S. Patent.

Surface Finishing. J. A. Kinzler, J. T. Heffernan, L. G. Fehrenkamp, and W. S. Lee. 28 June 1977. Patent No. 4,032,089.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET CREATED: 22 SEPTEMBER 1997